

Application No. 09/014,087

25. (Amended) A prosthesis comprising fully crosslinked tissue having an exogenous polypeptide growth factor associated therewith.

29. (Twice Amended) A prosthesis for a human patient comprising allograft or xenograft tissue having a polypeptide growth factor associated therewith by a biologic adhesive, covalent bonding using crosslinking agents comprising reactive functional groups, antibody-antigen associations, specific binding protein-receptor associations or enzyme substrate associations, said polypeptide growth factors being effective to stimulate the affiliation of viable cells with said tissue.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-11, 14, 15 and 21-29 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 14, 25 and 29 are amended to more particularly point out Applicants' claimed invention. The amendment of claim 14 is supported by the specification, for example, at page 4, lines 6-9. The amendment of claim 25 is supported by the specification, for example, at page 8, lines 12-18, page 20, lines 30-32 and page 21, lines 12-18. The amendment of claim 29 is supported by the specification, for example, at page 14, lines 23-28. Applicants have amended claims 25 and 29 to clarify the claim scope and do not believe that the scope of these claims has changed from the previously intended scope. No new matter is introduced by the amendments.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections based on the following comments.

Double Patenting

The Examiner provisionally rejected claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9-11, 14 and 21-29 under the judicial doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 3, 4, 8-11, 13 and 15 of copending Application No. 09/186,810. Applicants will consider filing a terminal disclaimer once the claims have been found otherwise patentable.